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TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



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GOOD WEEK FOR HARVEST

Tennessee corn producers made tremendous strides last week as warm, dry conditions allowed them to harvest an additional 17 percent of the State’s acreage. Cotton farmers also took advantage of last week’s dry conditions to advance in the harvest of their crop. Cotton defoliation continued with three-fourths of the acreage having open bolls. Tobacco growers continued harvest with progress running near or ahead of normal. Over half of the soybean acreage was dropping leaves, while 15 percent of the acreage has been harvested. Although pasture conditions remain mostly good, farmers are awaiting rain for further renovation and seeding. In addition to harvest activities, farmers were still assessing the impact of damage to crops caused by Hurricane Ivan the previous week. Tennessee was under the influence of high pressure which brought dry weather to the state most of last week and provided temperatures that were slightly above normal. There was little, if any, rainfall across the State last week, resulting in 6 days being suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 7 percent very short, 21 percent short, 69 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 2 percent very short, 22 percent short, 73 percent adequate, and 3 percent surplus.

CROP PROGRESS: Through September 26, 2004					CONDITION: On September 24, 2004					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2003	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn Grain Harvested	77	60	70	80	Cotton	0	1	12	61	26
Corn Silage Harvested	98	93	93	97	Soybeans	2	4	17	52	25
Cotton - Bolls Opening	75	54	68	89	Pastures	1	5	19	60	15
Cotton - Defoliated	42	17	35	60						
Cotton - Harvested	6	2	6	19						
Soybeans - Dropping Leaves	55	38	43	51						
Soybeans Harvested	15	8	4	9						
Burley Tobacco Stripped	3	n/a	6	6						
Burley Tobacco Harvested	84	76	87	90						
Air-Cured Tobacco Harvested	99	95	93	96						
Fire-Cured Tobacco Harvested	91	85	85	90						

CORN: Virtually all of the corn crop had reached maturity by week’s end. Over three-fourths of the corn acreage for grain has been harvested, while silage harvest was nearly wrapped up last week. Farmers continue to report better than average yields.

COTTON: The State’s cotton harvest progressed on a limited basis last week with the majority of the crop rated in good-to-excellent condition. Harvest should kick into high gear soon if dry conditions persist. Cotton defoliation continues ahead of last year, but behind the 5-year average.

SOYBEANS: As of Sunday, over half of the acreage was dropping leaves with harvest progressing ahead of the normal pace. Over three-fourths of the crop was rated in good-to-excellent condition.

TOBACCO: Tobacco growers continue to make good harvest progress. Burley producers took advantage of early morning fog to begin stripping tobacco.

PASTURES AND HAY: The recent dry soil conditions slowed pasture seeding last week. Pastures continue to be rated in mostly good condition. Growers continue to bale hay and apply lime in some areas.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: September 26th, 2004(with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending Sept 26 th , 2004				Current Week	Rain	Current Since	Departure From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	9/27/04	Days	January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	86	53	71	+3	0.00	0	42.59	+3.68	2339	+21
Tri-City_RGNL_A	86	44	66	+1	0.00	0	38.85	+7.35	1749	+149
Brownsville_TN	84	51	70	+1	0.00	0	41.14	+2.31	2487	+427
Chattanooga/Lov	86	51	70	+0	0.00	0	41.35	+1.26	2415	+183
Clarksville_Sew	85	49	70	+3	0.00	0	30.15	-7.30	2259	+180
Cookeville	86	48	67	+1	0.00	0	47.03	+4.33	1860	+562
Covington	83	49	69	-1	0.00	0	37.69	-0.38	2214	-149
Crossville_AP	83	49	66	+3	0.01	1	46.94	+5.27	1644	+172
Dickson_AG	85	48	68	+0	0.00	0	44.88	+4.76	1891	-272
Dover_1W	83	51	69	+3	0.00	0	30.61	-8.36	2093	+243
Dyersburg	86	48	70	+1	0.00	0	26.82	-10.24	2380	-125
Erwin_1W	85	45	65	+3	0.00	0	41.96	+3.95	1691	-205
Huntingdon_Wate	83	51	68	+1	0.00	0	39.38	-0.01	2220	+252
Jackson_Exp_Stn	84	51	70	+2	0.01	1	37.76	-0.86	2355	+87
Kingston_AG	86	47	66	+1	0.00	0	44.23	+0.52	1955	+241
Knoxville_AP	85	49	68	+0	0.00	0	39.19	+3.48	2190	+264
Lewisburg	88	45	67	-1	0.00	0	47.23	+6.64	2103	+169
Lexington_TN	85	50	69	-1	0.00	0	40.85	+3.27	2209	+819
Linden	86	46	67	+0	0.00	0	44.13	+3.07	2056	+106
Martin	85	54	71	+4	0.02	1	32.80	-6.28	2295	+129
Mc_Minnville_Tn	85	49	68	+1	0.00	0	43.61	+3.70	2127	-279
Memphis_AG	86	50	71	-1	0.00	0	37.60	-0.33	2497	-307
Milan	84	48	67	+0	0.00	0	34.04	-6.33	2204	+87
Murfreesboro_5N	86	49	67	-1	0.00	0	40.82	+0.86	2128	-273
Nashville_Metro	87	50	70	+2	0.00	0	43.13	+7.48	2352	+69
Newcomb	84	44	65	+3	0.00	0	44.34	+3.15	1670	+286
Oneida	85	46	66	+3	0.00	0	41.26	+0.07	1726	-324
Pikeville	85	47	68	+0	0.00	0	42.79	+2.81	2051	+169
Portland_TN	85	51	69	+3	0.00	0	45.32	+6.87	2030	+135
Pulaski_Water_P	86	48	67	-3	0.00	0	52.14	+11.30	2079	-189
Savannah_6SW	88	53	70	+0	0.00	0	51.44	+9.56	2230	+220
Sparta_TN	84	48	68	+3	0.00	0	48.33	+7.15	2165	+530
Springfield	86	47	68	+3	0.00	0	42.08	+5.12	2054	+159
Springhill	88	47	68	+2	0.00	0	45.40	+4.81	2208	+282
Union_City	85	47	67	+0	0.02	2	32.67	-5.39	2056	-41
Waynesboro_TN	86	48	67	+1	0.00	0	52.61	+10.03	2008	-167

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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